

# ***NOS Special Projects Highlights: January 2007***

## **Project of the Month**

### ***Ocean Explorer Web Site***

Posted the latest updates to "Tracking Narwhals in Greenland" on the Ocean Explorer Web site. Through this project, scientists are instrumenting eight to ten narwhals with satellite-linked, time-depth-temperature recorders to track whale movements, diving behavior, and ocean temperature structure in Baffin Bay.



On another note, the Ocean Explorer site has been nominated for a Webby Award, at the invitation of one of the judges of this prestigious Web site competition. (Joe Flood)

[HTTP://WWW.OCEANEXPLORER.NOAA.GOV/EXPLORATIONS/06ARCTIC/WELCOME.HTML](http://www.oceanexplorer.noaa.gov/explorations/06arctic/welcome.html)

## **NOS**

### **NOS All Hands Meeting Support**

Supported the live video, audio, and slide presentation for the NOS All Hands event held January 23 in the NOAA Auditorium. Special Projects coordinated captioning, conference call, and live video feed so that employees outside the Silver Spring campus could participate. Prior to the meeting, Special Projects designed a template for the slide presentation and incorporated content into the template. (Mike Shelby and Gini Kennedy)

### **Envisioning the Future of Coastal Management**

Working with the Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management (OCRM), in partnership with the Coastal States Organization (CSO), to develop principles and options for reauthorization of the Coastal Zone Management Act. OCRM and CSO are gathering input from coastal managers, users, stakeholders, other federal agencies, and offices within NOAA through a series of workshops. Special Projects is supporting the federal agency and NOAA workshops. (Lani Watson)

### **Rhode Island Metro Bay Special Area Management Plan (SAMP) Support**

Supporting OCRM on efforts to develop the Rhode Island Metro Bay SAMP. As part of the SAMP process, Special Projects will work with OCRM, the Rhode Island Coastal Resources Management Council (CRMC), the University of Rhode Island Coastal Resources Center, and Rhode Island Sea Grant to help plan and facilitate a two-day workshop in April or May 2007 to find innovative solutions that will help to create new water-type designations and SAMP policies to shape and enhance the Metro Bay waterfront. Special Projects will provide a variety of support to OCRM throughout this effort. (Alison Hammer)

### **U.S. Marine Protected Areas (MPA) Coral Reef Habitat Assessment**

Completed interim reports on coral reef habitat assessment, including the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) MPA Coral Reef Habitat Assessment Report - Interim report for the CNMI MPA Coral Reef Habitat Assessment and Guam MPA Coral Reef Habitat Assessment Report - Interim report for the Guam MPA Coral Reef Habitat Assessment. Copies of both reports are available for distribution upon request. (Joel Murray)

### **NOS-wide Communication Initiative**

Worked with representatives from the NOS Communications and Education Division and the NOS Policy, Planning & Analysis Division to identify requirements for a database that will house constituent outreach and other activities. (Carol Kavanagh and Tim Goodspeed)

## **NOAA**

### **NOAA Regional Maps**

Produced several regional maps showing the current state of NOAA facilities and personnel for NOAA Program, Planning, and Integration and NOAA Regional Leads for the SES Summit. The maps show NOAA spatial locations by Line Office and were created for each of eight proposed NOAA regions. The maps were compiled from a GIS that contains the most recent versions of NOAA Locator data and the NOAA Facility Real Property Management database. Special Projects is working to integrate both data sets effectively within a Web-based GIS. (Robb Wright)

## NOAA, cont.

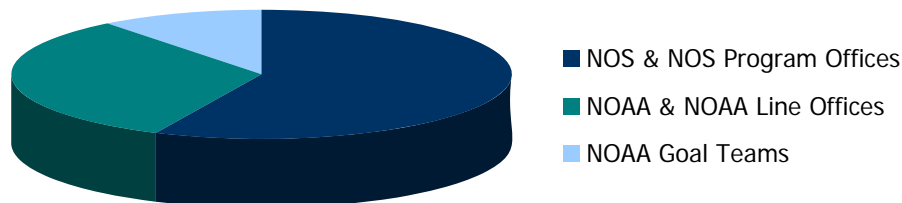
### NOAA 200th Web Site

Added several new features to the NOAA 200th Web site, including an animation showing the expansion of the National Spatial Reference System from 1816 – 2006 and the "NOAA 200th Celebration Events Chronicle," which includes a live RSS feed to logs and photos posted to follow NOAA 200th Celebration Events throughout 2007. (Davida Remer)

### Coral Reef Project Inventory

Completed an extensive user requirements process, including a user focus and scenarios definition document, proposal process flow diagram, Web story boards, and a statement of work, for the Coral Reef Project Inventory. The Inventory is a Web-enabled database system designed to support the NOAA Coral Reef Conservation Program (CRCP) with the administration of an internal NOAA-wide coral reef project proposal, approval, and tracking process. A new system is currently being designed and built by Special Projects to replace the existing system. The overhaul will focus on an improved security, database design and application code, improved user interface, and development of additional capabilities and features. Application coding, acceptance testing, code review, and a security scan are projected to be completed by late May 2007. (Chris Clement)

## Summary of Projects by Partner: FY07 (as of February 7)



*Chart represents cumulative numbers of active, proposed, and completed projects for fiscal year 2007.*

	Active	Proposed	Completed	Estimated Level of Effort* (person years)
<b><i>TOTAL Projects</i></b>	83	10	21	39.7**

\*The level of effort estimates will fluctuate as new projects are added and existing projects are completed.

\*\*There is an additional level of effort that goes into SP-specific projects (e.g., administrative).

## Special Projects Says Farewell to Dan Farrow...

On February 2, Special Projects bid farewell to its leader, Dan Farrow, after 23 years in Special Projects and its predecessor offices (the first year as a Sea Grant fellow). His dedication, passion, insights, and sense of humor will be missed by the Special Projects "family." Dan is moving next door to NMFS, where he will serve as the new Deputy Director for the Office of Habitat Conservation with Office Director Pat Montanio. During Dan's farewell party, Special Projects staff outfitted Dan in full fishing regalia, to help prepare him for his position (*see right*).

Tom Culliton, Chief of the Special Projects Coastal Resources Assessment Branch, is serving as Acting Chief of Special Projects and can be reached at (301) 713-3000, ext. 142, and at Tom.Culliton@noaa.gov.



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